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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,222	09/28/2001	William James Palmteer	17658	5902

7590 01/07/2005

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EXAMINER

ZARNEKE, DAVID A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2829

DATE MAILED: 01/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

(K)

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,222

Applicant(s)

PALMTEER ET AL.

Examiner

David A. Zameke

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 10/20/04, with respect to the rejection of the claims have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground of rejection has been made below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3, and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Choi, US Patent 6,437,427.

Choi [figures 3 & 4] teaches a chip scale package comprising:

a leadframe [1] including (1) a die attach pad [2] centrally located thereon and (2) a plurality of wire bonding pads peripherally located therein [3 & 8];

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at least one die [5] having a first surface and an opposing second surface, the at least one die mounted on the die attach pad such that substantially the entire opposing second surface is in mated contact with the die attach pad [figure 4];

at least one aperture [9] formed in the die attach surface;

at least one bonding wire [74] for electrically connecting the at least one die and at least one of the plurality of wire bonding pads; and

a mold compound [6], wherein said mold compound encapsulates the at least one die and the at least one bonding wire to form a chip scale package, and wherein the mold compound resides in the at least one aperture.

With respect to claim 3, Choi teaches the aperture is formed partially through the die attach pad (8d).

As to claim 5, Choi teaches the apertures to be in the shape of a rectangle or square (figure 4).

In re claim 6, Choi teaches a leadframe-based Chip Scale Package (figure 4).

Regarding claim 7, Choi teaches a plurality of apertures formed around the at least one die (figure 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi, US Patent 6,437,427, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Mori et al., US Patent 4,884,124.

Choi fails to teach the aperture as being formed fully through the die attach pad.

Mori [figure 5] teaches apertures [7b & 7d] in a leadframe [7] that are formed fully through the die attach pad.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the apertures formed fully through the die attach pad of Mori in the

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invention of Choi because Mori teaches that the apertures formed fully through the die attach pad increase the smoothness of the flow of molten resin and as a result increase the adhesion of the resin to the lead frame [3, 37+].

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi, US Patent 6,437,427, as applied to claim 1 above.

While Choi fails to teach how the apertures are formed, the use of etching and half-etching to form the apertures is an obvious matter of design choice. Design choices and changes of size are generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art (MPEP 2144.04(I), (IVA) & (IVB)).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi, US Patent 6,437,427, as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Applicant's admitted prior art Figures 1A & 1B .

Choi fails to teach the use of a first and second die with apertures located between the two dice.

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches the use of a first and second die.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the first and second die of Applicant's admitted prior art in the invention of Choi because multiple dice on a leadframe saves money by using fewer materials, and also saves space by consolidating the dice onto one leadframe.

The apertures would inherently be located between the two dice because Choi teaches the die attach pad (8) as being covered with apertures outside the die attach area (figure 4).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David A. Zarneke whose telephone number is (571)-272-1937. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 AM-6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (571)-272-2034. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Zarneke". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "D" and a trailing flourish.

David A. Zarneke
Primary Examiner
December 28, 2004